



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

AF  
2763 #16

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Inventor Application of:  
Scott H. Hutchinson and  
Gregory M. Hanka

For: SOFTWARE-IMPLEMENTED METHOD  
FOR IDENTIFYING NODES ON A  
NETWORK

Atty Dkt: 23946-P001US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

§ Serial No: 09/233,860  
§  
§ Filed: January 20, 1999  
§  
§ Group Art Unit: 2763  
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§ Examiner: William D. Thomson  
§ 703.305.0022  
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date below.

01-24-01  
Date

D. Rypacek  
Signature

D. Rypacek  
Printed Name

**RESPONSE TO JANUARY 2, 2001 OFFICE ACTION**

This paper is submitted in response to a January 2, 2001 Office Action ("the Office Action") issued in connection with the captioned application. No fees are believed to be due in connection with this submission. However, if any fees are determined to be due in connection with this submission, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Winstead Sechrest & Minick Deposit Account No. 23-2426/23946-P001US.

**REMARKS**

1. *Status of the Application.* All pending claims in the application stand finally rejected. An Appeal Brief ("the Appeal Brief") was submitted on October 3, 2000.
2. *Objections to Appeal Brief.* According to the Office Action, the Appeal Brief did not comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.192(c). In response to these objections, submitted herewith